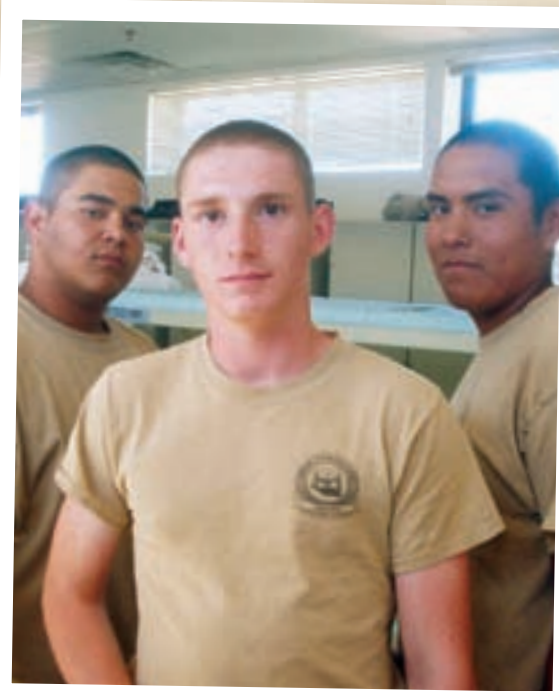


Who Is Eligible:

Making the Commitment

Project ChalleNGe will consider for enrollment young adults who previously dropped out of high school but are strongly motivated to improve their lives. Students must enter Project ChalleNGe voluntarily. In order to succeed, students must have the desire and ability to be challenged physically, emotionally, psychologically and academically. More specifically, participants must be:

- A legal resident of the United States and of Arizona;
- 16 to 18 years old;
- Drug free;
- Free from any pending legal action; not on parole or probation; not indicted or convicted of any felony or capitol offense;
- Capable of passing a military physical fitness exam (reasonable accommodations are made for the physically challenged);
- Willing to comply with all program regulations, including random drug tests;
- Willing to volunteer for the five-month residential portion of the program.



Why Arizona Project ChalleNGe?

Project ChalleNGe, a 17-month long program administered and operated by the Arizona National Guard, gives Arizona’s high school dropouts a second chance for a new life. By developing discipline, responsibility and education, the program offers at-risk youth an opportunity to achieve their educational and employment goals.

Twice a year at-risk youth arrive on campus and commit to changing their lives. After 22-weeks in residence at the program in Queen Creek, more than 75 percent of these former dropouts attain their GED. Graduates leave Project ChalleNGe with a new sense of community, self-respect and discipline fostered by their improved life-coping skills (including leadership development, conflict resolution and career exploration and planning).

Visit us on our website:
www.azpgc.org



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Queen Creek, Arizona 85242
Phone (480) 988-4100
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1-800-296-8110



Every day.

We prepare a new generation of leaders by teaching:

- * team building
- * community service
- * job training
- * physical fitness
- * and more...

This is Arizona Project ChalleNGe.

Sponsored by the Arizona National Guard.

Getting a Second Chance

Phase I

In the first two weeks (Pre-ChalleNGe), the program focuses on student screening and introducing the program standards. All students undergo physicals, academic testing, team-building, skill evaluations, and adjust to a schedule that begins at 4:30 a.m. and ends at 8:30 p.m. when they are more than ready to call “lights out!”

From the start, applicants are referred to as corpsmembers and begin to learn self-discipline, leadership skills and responsibility through classroom instruction and challenging team activities.



Corpsmembers are issued uniforms along with physical training clothing and are required to adhere to standards of appearance, a student code of conduct and all other program regulations.



Moving Toward a New Life

Phase II

After completion of Pre-ChalleNGe, corpsmembers begin the five-month residential phase referred to as ChalleNGe. Corpsmembers train in a structured environment and participate in the core curriculum, consisting of approximately 375 hours of classroom instruction. While at ChalleNGe, corpsmembers work to complete requirements for a General Education Development (G.E.D.) certificate. Additionally, those who display initiative can enroll in community college courses or technical training.

“My whole mindset is different, (Arizona Project ChalleNGe) really makes you think ahead and plan for the future.”

Luisa Zamora, graduate of Arizona Project ChalleNGe

Graduating and Putting New Skills to Work

Phase III

Upon graduation from the residential phase, participants begin the 12-month Post-ChalleNGe or Mentoring Phase.

During their time at ChalleNGe, students are matched with a community member who will serve as their mentor. Each potential mentor is carefully screened and interviewed, including letters of reference, criminal history background check and mentor training, before a match is complete. Mentors are committed to helping students achieve their post-graduation goals and are active in the development and implementation of their action plan for life after they leave the residential program.



The Eight Core Components of Arizona Project ChalleNGe are:

1. Community Service
2. Educational Experience
3. Health, Sex Education and Nutrition
4. Job Skills
5. Leadership and Followership
6. Life Coping Skills
7. Physical Fitness
8. Responsible Citizenship

Supported by the Department of Defense, the National Guard Bureau and the State of Arizona, the program is free of cost to participants and their families and although the program is administered by the National Guard, there is no military obligation for those who participate.